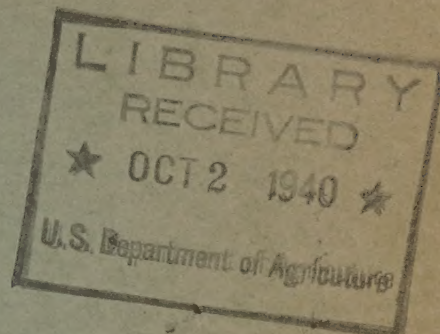


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
In Cooperation with the
COLORADO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



THE PEOPLE OF KIT CARSON COUNTY, COLORADO

By

T. Wilson Longmore
Junior Agricultural Economist

Washington, D. C.
August 1940

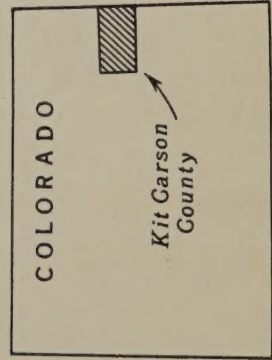
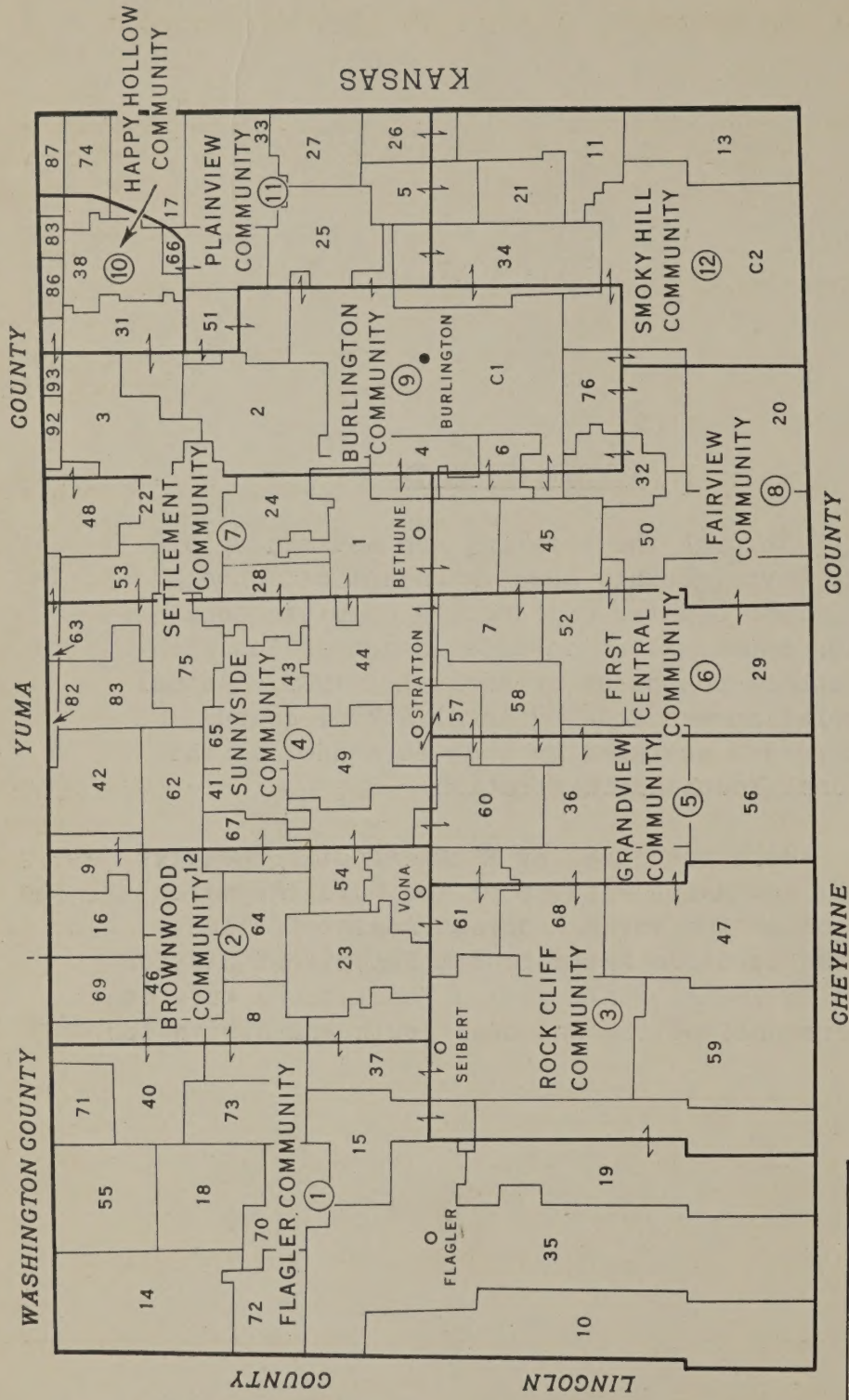
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Through the interest and assistance of Laura Payne, County Superintendent of Schools, Kit Carson County, Colorado, a complete population enumeration was made in connection with the school census as of April 10, 1939. Actual enumeration was done by local school-census enumerators assisted by some personnel of the National Youth Administration.

Help was given by R. O. Woodfin, County Agent, and Ralph Roberts of the Rural Research Section of the Works Progress Administration, and the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station assisted in the field work. Tabulations were done by personnel of the National Youth Administration.

M.H. OCT 15 1940

COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, KIT CARSON CO., COLORADO



- Community line
- School-district line
- Incorporated town
- County seat

SCALE: 1 INCH=8 MILES

THE PEOPLE OF KIT CARSON COUNTY, COLORADO

By T. Wilson Longmore, Junior Agricultural Economist

Public attention, both national and local, has been focused recently on the large migration of population out of some areas and into others. The problem of out-migration, in many instances, has been aggravated by serious drought conditions.

Kit Carson County, located on the eastern border of Colorado, is near the center of the dust-bowl area where successive years of drought have driven people to seek a livelihood elsewhere. Because it was known that many people had left Kit Carson County since 1930, it was one of five counties in Colorado selected for a study of population movement.

In this study an attempt was made to learn the extent of migration into and out of the county. In addition, information was secured regarding the characteristics of the migrants and some of the adjustments that are being made in the county as a consequence of this extensive migration.

POPULATION TRENDS

The population of Kit Carson County has decreased by nearly 2,600 persons since 1930. In April 1939, it stood at 7,153. Nearly all of the decrease was in the open country where population declined by 2,500 persons. The decrease in the towns was less than 100 persons. This means that the proportion of the people living in the open country has declined from 71 percent in 1930 to 56 percent in 1939. About half the heads of families in the county are farmers.

This is not the first time that there has been a decrease in the population of this county. The census of 1890, taken about a year after the county's organization, showed 2,472 people. But the years of drought which soon followed caused so many to move out that by 1900 the number was only 1,580, a decrease of 36 percent. In proportion to the total number of persons, this was a greater decrease than that of the last 9 years. The period of most rapid growth took place during the 10 years from 1900 to 1910 and there was a steady increase until 1930. Available data indicate that the recent decline began about 1933. 1/

1/ Based on annual school census of Kit Carson County.

Table 1.- Population change, Kit Carson County, Colo.,
1890-1939

Year	Population	Percentage loss (-) or gain (/) from preceding census
1890	2,472	County organized, 1889
1900	1,580	-36.1
1910	7,483	/373.6
1920	8,915	/19.1
1930	9,725	/9.1
1939	7,153	-26.4

Source: Years 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930 based on U. S. Census;
year 1939 based on data compiled in school survey.

An extensive flow of outside capital came into the area during the period of rapid development after 1900. Persons with both meager and large savings came into the county hoping to increase their capital, and the flow of outside money was further stimulated by various promotional schemes typical of boom periods. After the boom was over and the people were faced with the necessity of "living off the land," land values depreciated, farm income lagged, local governmental units became bankrupt, improvements deteriorated, and community spirit ebbed.

Because of the county's location in a dry-land area, it was not farmed extensively until the high prices of wheat during the World War made cultivation profitable. During seasons with rainfall above normal, crops were produced on land that was later abandoned during drought years. Land use in the county, as in most of the Great Plains, has been one of adaptation and continued adjustment to climatic factors.

Under present conditions it is not probable that the population of the county will increase materially above the present level. In all probability there will be fewer persons in the county in the future than formerly. This means that although there will be little decrease in the number of services demanded in the county, the resources available for supplying them will tend to remain fixed, or in some instances, to diminish.

That this actually has been going on in Kit Carson for some time is evidenced by the decline in property values from approximately 21 million dollars in 1930 to less than 10 million dollars in 1939. This 53 percent reduction in tax base was accompanied by a 48 percent reduction in tax revenue. Furthermore, the estimated value of principal crops has dropped decidedly during the last 9 years.

To consider the adjustment of institutional service areas in the light of a changing population pattern and available resources is obviously desirable. A net population reduction in the county of 26 percent between 1930 and 1939 certainly increases the need for tax adjustment in already heavily-taxed communities, and the prospect of further decline emphasizes the need for careful planning of institutions and services.

MIGRATION, IN AND OUT, 1930-39

Consideration of the net change alone does not show the true nature of the problems inherent in the extensive movement of people. From the standpoint of stable community life and the continuity of social programs and services, the continual in-and-out movement of persons is more significant than the mere fact of net loss or gain. For example, it is difficult to do a good job of schooling the children of transient households or to secure the effective cooperation of heads of such households in permanent agricultural conservation programs. It is recognized, of course, that some movement of people is frequently necessary both for personal reasons and to bring about the most favorable relation of population to resources.

The net loss of nearly 2,600 people between April 1930 and April 1939 does not reveal the extent of the in-and-out migration. During these 9 years, 5,791 persons moved out of Kit Carson County; this is equivalent to 60 percent of the 1930 population. But while this was going on, 2,006 persons moved into the county and were present in 1939. It is not known how many people came into the county after 1930 and moved out before 1939. Furthermore, those persons who were present in 1930 and who moved out and back between 1930 and 1939 are included in the group reported as entering the county "1930 and after"; that is they are considered in the "newcomer" group. Had there been no migration in and out during this period, population would have increased about 1,200 for that is the excess of births over deaths.

There were more than four times as many people leaving the county from farms as there were newcomers settling on farms and staying until 1939. From 1930 to 1939, 4,753 persons from farms left the county while 1,085 persons moved in and were still on farms in 1939. About two-thirds of the farmers entering the county came during the latter part of the period, 1934-39. The greatest number of agricultural workers (owners, tenants, and laborers) came in 1934; the greatest number of nonagricultural workers came in 1938.

Table 2.- Number of persons in households in 1939 moving into
Kit Carson County by period of move

Period of move	All households		Agricultural households	
	Persons	Percent	Persons	Percent
1930 and after	1,912	26.7	1,022	25.6
Before 1930	4,907	68.6	2,733	68.6
Unknown	334	4.7	231	5.8
Total	7,153	100.0	3,986	100.0

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE 1939 POPULATION

In 1939, more than half of the heads of households reported agriculture as their occupation. This number, 966, includes farm owners, tenants, and laborers. Some of these, 1 out of 12, lived in one of the six incorporated towns and operated a farm in a nearby community. About one-fourth of these farmers, 232, moved into the county during or after 1930.

Although most of these incoming farm families came from neighboring States that have a similar type of farming or from other counties in the State, only about half reported agriculture as a usual occupation. The other half of the newcomers had to adjust themselves to a new occupation as well as to different surroundings. The heads of the nonagricultural households reported themselves as follows: merchants, professionals, and laborers, 308; public employees, 112; W.P.A. employees, 96; pensioners, 50; railroad employees, 27; unemployed, 83; retired and sick, 29; all others and those not reported, 224.

The average size of families living in Kit Carson County in 1939 was less than that of families living there in 1930. There was an average of 4.2 persons in each household in 1930, but in 1939 it was 3.8 persons. In 1939, families of farm owners averaged 4.0 persons, those of farm tenants 4.3, and those of farm laborers 3.8. The group including all other occupations had an average of 3.4 persons per household.

Table 3.- Average size of household by occupation of head, 1939

Occupation of head	No. of households	No. of persons in household	Average size
Farm owner	486	1,942	4.0
Farm tenant	451	1,933	4.3
Farm laborer	29	111	3.8
All others	929	3,167	3.4
Total	1,895	7,153	3.8

The number of people in different age groups is important as a means of showing the proportion of dependents, both young and old, to persons at the age of productive work. In the total population in 1939, less than one-third were males between the ages of 15 and 64; slightly more than one-fourth were under 15 years of age; one-fifth were in the "youth group," 15-24; while one person in 14 was 65 or over. During this 9-year period there has been a decrease in the percentage of children (under 15), an increase in the percentage of youth (15-24), a slight decrease in the percentage of males of working age (15-64) and an increase in old people (65 and over) from slightly over 4 to slightly under 7 percent. As a result of the interchange of population during the 9 years, the average age of the population has been increased. A larger proportion are 45 years old and over in 1939 than was the case in 1930. Moreover, there are not enough children to take the places of the young adult persons as they become older.

In the agricultural households moving into the county in 1930 or after, there were 117 males to 100 females. This ratio was about the same as that of agricultural households who were in the county previous to 1930 and still present in 1939. In the nonagricultural households of the migrants there were the same number of males as females but in the nonagricultural households of the non-migrants the ratio was 104 males to 100 females.

The number of children under 5 for each 1000 women in the child-bearing ages of 15 to 44 is one of the best indications of whether enough babies are being born to hold the population at a stable level. It is estimated that a ratio of 370 children per 1000 women, 15 to 44 years of age, is required to bring this about, disregarding the factor of migration.

According to the 1939 count, the ratio in Kit Carson County was 401, or about 8 percent more than the number necessary to maintain the population at the existing level. This figure represents a striking decline from 1930 when the ratio was 534 children under 5 to each 1000 women aged 15-44. The fertility ratio was found to be much higher (445) for the agricultural than for the nonagricultural (351) portion of the county population.

Table 4.- Percentage distribution of population of Kit Carson County by age groups and sex, 1930 and 1939 1/

Age groups	Males		Females		Total	
	1930	1939	1930	1939	1930	1939
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Under 5 years	5.7	4.1	5.6	4.2	11.3	8.3
5 - 14	12.6	10.3	12.3	9.6	24.9	19.9
15-24	9.5	10.5	8.7	9.9	18.2	20.4
25 - 34	6.8	6.0	6.2	5.8	13.0	11.8
35 - 44	6.8	5.3	6.1	5.0	12.9	10.3
45 - 64	8.9	9.6	6.6	8.2	15.5	17.8
65 and over	2.5	3.9	1.7	2.9	4.2	6.8
Unknown	-	2.7	-	2.0	-	4.7

1/ Percentages based on total population.

The families of newcomers have a larger proportion of children than the families of those who were in the area before 1930. In the families of the migrants over one-third (35 percent) were under 15 years of age; in the non-migrant families one-fourth (25.7 percent) were in this age group. Only one-fifth (20 percent) of the migrants were over 44 years of age as compared with one-third (33 percent) of the nonmigrants. Males of working age, 15 through 64, made up a little less than one-third of the population of both groups. More than half of the heads of farm families who have moved into the county since 1930 were under 45 years of age. This means that the newcomers are essentially young families with more young children and thus they increase the demand for schools, churches, recreation, and other community service.

Table 5.- Age and sex percentage distribution of migrants and nonmigrants

Age groups	Percent					
	Migrants			Nonmigrants		
	(1930 and after)			(Before 1930)		
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Under 5 years	5.8	6.1		3.6	3.3	
5 - 14	11.9	11.1		9.8	9.0	
15 - 24	9.8	8.8		10.9	10.4	
25 - 34	7.7	7.3		5.4	5.3	
35 - 44	6.5	5.3		4.9	4.9	
45 - 64	7.3	6.1		10.6	9.3	
65 and over	1.9	1.6		4.7	3.5	
Unknown	1.7	1.1		2.4	2.0	
Total	52.6	47.4		52.3	47.7	

OCCUPATIONAL CHANGES

Almost half of the heads of households moving into the county in 1930 and after, reported agriculture as their occupation in 1939. Less than one-third of the newcomers were farm owners while over one-half of the older residents were owners. About two-thirds of the recent migrants were tenants, more than one-third of the older residents were tenants.

Table 6.- Present occupation of agricultural household heads by period of migration

	Moved to county -							
	1930 & after		Before 1930		Unknown		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farm owners	69	29.8	387	57.5	30	49.2	486	50.3
Farm tenants	153	65.9	270	40.1	28	45.9	451	46.7
Farm laborers	10	4.3	16	2.4	3	4.9	29	3.0
Total	232	100.0	673	100.0	61	100.0	966	100.0

Although the change in the percentage engaged in agriculture as a usual occupation before and after moving was relatively slight, there were some changes in tenure status. The number of farm laborers declined from 32 to 10; farm tenants increased from 141 to 153; and farm owners increased from 52 to 69.

Table 7.- Occupation of all household heads moving into county 1930 and after, and still present in 1939

	Usual occupation		Present occupation	
	Heads	Percent	Heads	Percent
Farm owners	52	10.9	69	14.4
Farm tenants	141	29.5	153	32.0
Farm laborers	32	6.7	10	2.1
Unemployed and others	199	41.6	246	51.5
Unknown	54	11.3	-	-
Total	478	100.0	478	100.0

Only about half of those who were farm owners before moving to the county continued as owners, but some of the newcomers who were tenants and farm laborers as well as a number who had not been farmers and one previously unemployed became farm owners. About two-thirds of the former tenants continued in tenancy after moving, some became owners, one-fifth changed to nonagricultural work. Many of the farm laborers improved their status by becoming tenants, a few became owners, and some took up other work. More than two-thirds of those reporting nonagricultural work before moving continued in this group after coming to the county.

Table 8.- Occupational shifts of all household heads

Usual occupation of head before moving		Present occupation of head					
Occupation	Number	Farm owner	Farm tenant	Farm laborer	Unemployed	Other	Not known
Owner	52	25	12	1	3	8	3
Tenant	141	16	89	1	5	28	2
Laborer	36	4	16	6	3	6	1
Other	189 1/	11	23	2	3	121	29
Unemployed	8	1	1	-	3	3	-
Not known	52	12	12	-	2	23	3
Total	478	69	153	10	19	189	38

1/ Includes 18 heads whose usual occupation was farming but who did not specify owner, tenant, or farm laborer; 3 are now tenants, 1 unemployed, 4 other, and 10 not known.

THE MIGRANTS

Approximately 1 in 4 of the family heads moving into the county since 1930 had lived in Kit Carson County before. The fair agricultural year of 1937 may have influenced the return of some of the farmers. Among those who moved in since 1930, 35 percent of the farm owners, 29 percent of the farm tenants and 25 percent from other occupations had lived in the county before.

The most obvious characteristic of the people who left Kit Carson County between 1930 and 1939 was their youthfulness. About two-thirds of all persons who were between 15 and 34 years of age in 1930 were not present in the county by 1939. There was a larger proportion of young people leaving the farms than leaving the urban areas. This out-migration of youth was partially offset by the young people moving into the county.

The newcomers tended to settle on smaller farms than those of the established residents in the area. Over one-half were operating farms of less than 400 acres. Owner-operated farms averaged about 100 acres larger than tenant-operated farms. Those operating the larger units with more diversified farming, appeared to have a distinct advantage over those operating the smaller farms. Often insufficient capital prevented the newcomer from establishing himself to the best advantage. The average size of farm, for all farms in the county was considerably higher in 1937 (720 acres) than was reported by either the agricultural census of 1935 (579 acres) or by the 1930 census (595 acres).

Table 9.- Size of farm of newcomers compared with all farms, 1937, by tenure

Acres	Owners		Tenants		Total		All farms, 1937 ^{1/}	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 241	8	13.1	23	17.0	31	15.8	120	10.6
241-400	27	44.3	50	37.1	77	39.3	324	28.5
401-720	14	23.0	30	22.2	44	22.4	359	31.6
721-1040	8	13.1	13	9.6	21	10.7	140	12.3
1041-1920	2	3.3	16	11.9	18	9.2	140	12.3
Over 1920	2	3.2	3	2.2	5	2.6	54	4.7
Total	61	100.0	135	100.0	196	100.0	1137	100.0

^{1/} Data from Land Use Survey, 1937, of Kit Carson County, Colorado, Land Utilization Division, Resettlement Administration.

It is not known whether the level of living throughout the county has been raised or not but there has been an increase in the percentage of farms reporting certain facilities which usually are taken to measure level of living. The proportion of farms having electricity, running water, radios, and automobiles increased between 1930 and 1937. The percentage of farm homes having telephones declined slightly from 25 to 23 percent.

SCHOOL POPULATION TRENDS

The number of children in the county has decreased during the last 9 years. The annual school census which includes persons from 6 through 20 years of age reports a loss of 1,138 between 1933 and 1939. Following a period of increase, the number began to decline, until, by 1939, there were only two-thirds as many children of school age reported as in 1933. Although both rural and town areas have lost children, the decline has been less in the districts which include an incorporated town.

Table 10.- School census (6 through 20 years), Kit Carson County, 1930-39

Year	School census		Districts including		Open country	
	(6 through 20)		one incorporated town		districts	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1930	3,324	100.0	1,434	43.1	1,890	56.9
1931	3,521	100.0	1,552	44.1	1,969	55.9
1932	3,559	100.0	1,530	43.0	2,029	57.0
1933	3,587	100.0	1,611	44.9	1,976	55.1
1934	3,532	100.0	1,598	45.2	1,934	54.8
1935	3,254	100.0	1,554	47.8	1,700	52.2
1936	2,986	100.0	1,507	50.5	1,479	49.5
1937	2,758	100.0	1,488	54.0	1,270	46.0
1938	2,527	100.0	1,391	55.0	1,136	45.0
1939	2,449 ^{1/}	100.0	1,306	53.3	1,143	46.7

^{1/} The 2,449 figure was submitted by the county superintendent and includes joint districts, while the 2,303 figure (on following page) is based on our survey data which do not include the small number of joint districts.

Source: County superintendent's annual report 1930-39.

An indication of future needs with reference to school and governmental services may be obtained by estimating the school population for succeeding years. From the number of children under 6 years of age in 1939, it is possible to predict the number who will be of school age in each year from 1940 to 1945. Of course, the extent of migration in and out of the county will greatly influence the future school population. But if migration and deaths are disregarded in making the estimates, the figures show a drop of 14 percent in school population by 1945; in other words, the indicated decline from 2,303 ¹/₁ children 6 through 20 years in 1939 to 1,976 children in 1945.

Table 11.- Estimated school population (6 through 20 years), 1939-45, Kit Carson County, Colo.

Year	:	Number	:	Index
1939	:	2,303	:	100.0
1940	:	2,296	:	99.7
1941	:	2,243	:	97.4
1942	:	2,123	:	92.2
1943	:	2,089	:	90.7
1944	:	2,021	:	87.8
1945	:	1,976	:	85.8

The county has been divided into 12 communities by the county agricultural planning committee. ²/₂ Information regarding recent changes in school population and the estimates of future change in each community should help the citizens in planning for their school needs (table 13).

Because property values have decreased more rapidly than school population, there has been a reduction of funds which are needed for operating the schools (table 14). Revenue derived from the county general school tax for paying teachers' salaries decreased from \$97,183 in 1930 to \$42,844 in 1938. The total revenue raised by special district taxes amounted to \$188,643, in 1930 but had decreased to \$98,445 in 1938. The county levied \$128,622 for financing its governmental functions in 1930 and \$78,039 for this purpose in 1938.

¹/₁ See footnote to table 10.

²/₂ See Frontispiece for map of Kit Carson County showing community lines.

CHANGES IN FARMING

Along with the changes in population during these 9 years, changes have taken place in farming. Although the number of farms decreased from 1930 to 1939, they averaged larger in size in 1939 with fewer acres in dry-farming land and more in grazing land. There has been a tendency toward more diversified farming, but a decrease in total acreage and value of crops harvested. Although wheat continued as the most valuable crop, sorghums increased in importance as a relatively stable and sure crop even during drought years. Tenancy in the county increased from 46 to 48 percent.

The number of cattle and milk cows reached their peak in the drought year 1934; by 1938 there were only half as many cattle and about one-third as many milk cows as in 1934. The number of stock sheep remained fairly stable, but hogs dropped to one-fourteenth of their peak number, which was recorded in 1932. Poultry numbers were lower in the county in 1938 than at any time in the preceding 8 years.

APPENDIX

Table 12.- Age distribution by occupational groups, 1939

Age group	Percent			
	Owner	Tenant	Laborer	Nonagricultural
Under 5 years	5.8	11.4	18.0	7.6
5 - 14	17.7	23.8	27.0	18.7
15 - 24	23.5	20.6	15.3	18.5
25 - 34	8.8	13.2	27.0	12.3
35 - 44	9.3	10.5	8.1	10.8
45 - 64	22.3	13.1	4.5	18.4
65 and over	6.9	2.5	-	9.6
Unknown	5.7	4.9	-	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The farm-laborer families had the largest proportion of children under 15 and farm-tenant households were next. Farm-owner families had the highest percentage of youths aged 15 through 24 and the fewest children under 15. The nonagricultural households had the most old people, 65 and over.

Table 13.- School population by community, 1930, 1933, 1939,
and estimates for 1945

Community	1930		1933		1939		1945 1/	
	Number	Index	Number	Index	Number	Index	Number	Index
Flagler	602	100	663	110.1	438	72.8	313	52.0
Brownwood	263	100	319	121.3	215	81.7	178	67.7
Rock Cliff	321	100	377	117.4	184	57.0	164	51.1
Sunnyside	471	100	498	105.7	415	88.1	356	75.6
Grandview	107	100	101	94.4	73	68.2	60	56.1
1st Central	198	100	184	92.9	95	47.7	66	33.3
Settlement	212	100	254	119.8	149	70.3	140	66.0
Fairview	112	100	112	100.0	64	57.1	56	50.0
Burlington	652	100	727	111.5	561	86.0	419	64.3
Happy Hollow	58	100	72	124.1	30	51.7	22	37.9
Plainview	167	100	129	77.2	107	64.1	102	61.1
Smoky Hill	152	100	151	99.0	100	65.8	100	65.8

1/ Estimated

From 1930 to 1933 the school population increased in all communities except Grandview, 1st Central, Plainview, Smoky Hill; in Fairview it remained the same. These communities are located in the south-central and eastern parts of the county. All communities shared in the pronounced decrease following 1933. In 1939 the number of children of school age in all of the communities except Brownwood, Sunnyside, and Burlington, was cut to less than three-fourths of the number present in 1930.

Further decline by 1945 is expected in all communities except Smoky Hill where the number is expected to remain the same as in 1939. It is predicted that in 1945 the school population of 1st Central will be only one-third as large as in 1930, Fairview one-half as large, and that Flagler and Rock Cliff will have slightly more than half the number present in 1930.

Table 14.- School finance data, Kit Carson County, Colorado, 1930-38.

Year	Dollars		Percent	
	Total assessed valuation of county	Total school revenue	School revenue as percentage of assessed valuation	
1930	21,126,843	285,826	1.4	
1931	17,038,334	263,523	1.5	
1932	15,428,171	244,283	1.6	
1933	13,122,251	211,836	1.6	
1934	13,435,924	212,710	1.6	
1935	11,015,637	187,352	1.7	
1936	10,751,343	166,426	1.5	
1937	10,514,251	151,306	1.4	
1938	9,998,543	141,289	1.4	
9-year average	13,603,477	207,172	1.5	

Source: Annual abstract of assessment, Kit Carson County, 1930-38.

Assessed valuation of taxable property fell from \$21,126,843 in 1930 to \$9,998,543 in 1938, a 53 percent decrease. In 1938 the school revenue was less than half the amount obtained in 1930. While the number of school children decreased less than one-third during this period, funds available for their education were cut more than one-half.

Table 15.- Trends in dry-farming and grazing lands, 1930-38

Year	Dry-farming land	Grazing land	Precipitation
	<u>1,000 acres</u>	<u>1,000 acres</u>	<u>Inches</u>
1930	1,010	293	26.6
1931	1,004	298	12.5
1932	983	319	11.6
1933	954	349	17.3
1934	1,002	311	7.7
1935	989	314	14.1
1936	973	329	12.6
1937	967	333	12.6
1938	954	346	19.6
9-year average	982	321	17.6

Source: Annual abstract of assessment, Kit Carson County, 1930-38.

The number of acres used for cropland was influenced by the amount of rainfall of the previous year. From 1930 to 1933 the trend was toward more grazing land and less dry-farming land but in 1934 the trend was reversed. In the preceding year (1933) the moisture was back to normal. In 1934 there was the least rainfall and in the next assessment year the trend away from dry-farming was resumed. By 1938 the acreage in crops had dropped again to the level of 1933. There were 57,000 fewer acres classed as dry-farming land and 57,000 more acres classed as grazing land in 1938 than in 1930.

